

US Army Corps of Engineers

New Orleans District

Phase I Environmental Site Assessment

Chalmette Loop Levee

Verret to Caernarvon (LPV 148)

St. Bernard Parish

USACE Contract No. W9128F-04-D-0001

Task Order CZ03

URS Job No. 10000977

November 2006

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1.0 SUMMARY

1.0 SUMMARY

URS Group Inc. (URS) has completed a Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) on approximately 46,000 linear feet of Chalmette levee from Verret to Caernarvon, designated by the Corps of Engineers as B/L Station 1118+60 to B/L Sta. 1560+25, St. Bernard Parish. This ESA was performed in accordance with the Scope of Work (SOW) provided by the Corps of Engineers (*Appendix A*) and was conducted in general accordance with the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) E 1527-05 guidance document titled "Standard Practice for Environmental Site Assessments: Phase I Environmental Site Assessment Process."

The following tasks were performed as part of the ESA:

- Reviewed current aerials of the segment included with SOW and also located in the LDEQ Make-A-Map web site. *Refer to Appendix A, SOW with aerials and LDEQ Make-A-Map Printouts.*
- Reviewed findings from EDR database search and LDEQ database search. *Refer to Appendix B, EDR Corridor Study and Associated Map.*
- Reviewed Sanborn maps. *Refer to Appendix C, Sanborn Map Report.*
- Reviewed historical aerials dated 1946 and 1960 obtained from the New Orleans Library. *Refer to Appendix D.*
- Reviewed historical topographic maps of the segment. *Refer to Appendix E, Historical Topographic Maps.*
- Performed field observations. URS representatives investigated the levee and surrounding area for "recognized environmental conditions" (REC). *Refer to Appendix F, Site Visit Photographs.*
- Interviewed the Director of the Lake Bourgne Levee District to determine the history of the area and if he knew of any environmental concerns in the area of the levee.

Based upon findings of the above tasks, one (1) area has been noted as a potential REC. This site is listed on an environmental database as a RCRA, FINDS, and UST site and its location can be found on the figure in Appendix B:

- 1) The possible REC is Elevating Boats Inc located at 900 St Bernard Parkway. This site is listed in the EDR database and is located within 1000 feet of the current levee. The site visit confirmed the location of the shipyard and the presence of several areas with visible soil staining and leaking drums.

Based upon findings of the above tasks, two (2) areas are of potential environmental concern:

- 1) The area adjacent to the levee on the western boundary of the levee study area. This area is just south of St. Bernard Parkway. There appears to be a clearing that has several construction debris areas, an abandoned storage warehouse, several scrapped buses, and a tanker truck with unknown contents.

- 2) An area adjacent to the levee on the eastern boundary of the levee study area. This area is southwest of the intersection of the levee and Bayou Road, at the end of a residential road. There is an area where several drums, abandoned trucks, cars, and tractors, as well as other miscellaneous materials, have been dumped.

Note: The conclusions presented in this report are preliminary in nature and are not to be used as a sole basis for final action(s), or as the sole basis for major capital decisions. Background data and information furnished to URS were used in the preparation of this report. URS has not independently verified or otherwise examined it nor is responsible for the accuracy of this information. The findings, although valid as of the present date, are subject to future changes in conditions of the site, adjacent properties, applicable regulations, requirements, or other findings which may invalidate them wholly or in part.

2.0 INTRODUCTION

2.0 INTRODUCTION**2.1 Purpose**

As stated in the introduction to the SOW (*Appendix A*), due to damage from Hurricane Katrina, the Corps of Engineers is rehabilitating and improving the flood protection system of southeast Louisiana. As part of this work, the levee from Verret to Caernarvon (B/L Station 1118+60 to B/L Station 1560+25) will be enlarged with compacted fill. The footprint of this enlarged levee will not exceed the limits of the existing right-of-way at this time; however, when this levee is eventually brought to the 100-year flood elevation, the footprint will likely increase outside the existing right-of-way by as much as 1,000 feet on either side of the levee crown.

The Corps of Engineers has tasked URS to perform a Phase I ESA to investigate the potential presence of hazardous, toxic or radioactive waste (HTRW) in the vicinity of the proposed construction and future levee enlargement. The focus of the Phase I ESA is to review existing and historical information regarding the site and to document the information to determine the potential presence of HTRW, in order to avoid any areas of concern.

2.2 Detailed Scope-of-Services

Refer to *Appendix A* for the Corps of Engineers provided SOW.

2.3 Significant Assumptions

None at this time.

2.4 Limitations and Exceptions

This report has been prepared for the specific levee segment described herein. This study has been conducted using the standard level of care and diligence normally practiced by recognized firms now performing services of a similar nature under similar circumstances unless specifically stated otherwise. URS intends for this report, including illustrations and appendices, to be used in its entirety.

2.5 Special Terms and Conditions

This report has been developed for the sole use of the Corps of Engineers. Environmental or contaminant assessment efforts other than those described herein are beyond the scope of work on this project. URS intends for this report, including illustrations and appendices, to be used in its entirety. URS reserves the right to revise its conclusions based on a review of information that may be obtained after the date of this report. This report contains opinions based on our professional judgement of client and affiliates-supplied information. This report is not a warranty of site conditions. URS cannot guarantee the accuracy or completeness of information obtained from others for use in this study.

NOTE: No sampling or testing was performed as part of this Phase I Assessment.

3.0 SITE DESCRIPTION

3.0 SITE DESCRIPTION**3.1 Location**

The earthen levee and concrete floodwall from Verret to Caernarvon is located in Violet, Louisiana and protects adjacent land. *Reference Appendix A, SOW aerials.*

Approximate coordinates and lengths of the subject levee are as follows:

Station	Longitude (West)	Latitude (North)	Approx. length of subject levee segment	
			feet	miles
1118+60	89° 46'30"	29° 51'38"	45,900	8.7
1560+25	89° 54'28"	29° 51'49"		

3.2 Site and Vicinity General Characteristics

The levee area is located south of Highway 46 bounded by the Mississippi River on the west and Highway 46 on the east. The segment of flood protection on the western end of the project boundary, near Caernarvon, is approximately 1300 feet of concrete floodwall. This area is developed by several industries. The floodwall becomes an earthen levee beyond the industrial developments. It remains an earthen levee for the remainder of the project area, with wetlands on the southern side and undeveloped land and wetlands on the northern side. The right-of-way for this levee is cleared and extends approximately 80 feet on each side.

3.3 Current Uses of the Property

The subject property is used as a levee for flood protection. The flood protection consists mostly of an earthen levee with a small section of concrete floodwall. The aerials included with the SOW of Appendix A shows the location of the flood protection.

3.4 Description of Structures, Roads, Other Improvements on the Site

A description of the levee and surrounding area is contained in *Section 3.2, Site Vicinity and General Characteristics*, as well as *Section 6.0*.

Reference Appendix F, Site Visit Photographs.

3.5 Current Uses of the Adjoining Properties

Current uses of adjacent properties are contained in *Section 3.2, Site Vicinity and General Characteristics*.

4.0 USER PROVIDED INFORMATION

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The owner of the levee is the Lake Bourgne Levee District. A representative of the Lake Bourgne Levee District was interviewed and knowledge obtained included in *Section 7.0, Interviews*.

4.1 Title Records

None supplied to URS.

4.2 Information Reported by User Regarding Environmental Liens or Specialized Knowledge of Experience

The owner of the levee is the Lake Bourgne Levee District. A representative of the Lake Bourgne Levee District was interviewed and knowledge obtained included in *Section 7.0, Interviews*.

4.3 Specialized Knowledge

The owner of the levee is the Lake Bourgne Levee District. A representative of the Lake Bourgne Levee District was interviewed and knowledge obtained included in *Section 7.0, Interviews*.

4.4 Commonly Known or Reasonably Ascertainable Information

The owner of the levee is the Lake Bourgne Levee District. A representative of the Lake Bourgne Levee District was interviewed and knowledge obtained included in *Section 7.0, Interviews*.

4.5 Valuation Reduction for Environmental Issues

Not applicable.

4.6 Owner, Property Manager, and Occupant Information

The owner of the levee is the Lake Bourgne Levee District. A representative of the Lake Bourgne Levee District was interviewed and knowledge obtained included in *Section 7.0, Interviews*.

4.7 Reason for Performing Phase I

Refer to Section 2.1, Purpose.

5.0 RECORDS REVIEW

5.0 RECORDS REVIEW**5.1 Standard Environmental Record Sources, Federal and State**

A search of available environmental records was conducted by Environmental Data Resources, Inc. (EDR). The search was in accordance with the requirements of ASTM Standard Practice for Environmental Site Assessments, E 1527-05, including those associated with governmental databases, search distances, and data currency. The complete standard environmental record sources review, dated October 12, 2006 is included as *Appendix B, EDR Corridor Study and Associated Map*.

Through the database review, URS has identified and located sites based on information submitted to government environmental agencies. In some cases, the location information can be misleading or worse, incorrect. To confirm findings and note others not listed, URS conducted a walkover of approximately 1000 feet on either side of the centerline of the levee. By doing so, URS was able to identify and locate sites of environmental concern that are suspected to use significant quantities of hazardous substances, waste, or petroleum products.

Only one site was reported by EDR and has been given map identification number 1. Its location is shown on the map of *Appendix B*. The following databases were searched and are summarized below.

NPL and Proposed NPL: National Priorities List (Superfund) and Proposed NPL. The NPL is a subset of CERCLIS and identifies over 1,200 sites for priority cleanup under the Superfund Program. NPL sites may encompass relatively large areas. As such, EDR provides polygon coverage for over 1,000 NPL site boundaries produced by EPA's Environmental Photographic Interpretation Center (EPIC) and regional EPA offices.

A review of the NPL and proposed NPL list, as provided by EDR, dated July 5, 2006, has revealed that there are no NPL or proposed NPL sites within the search area.

DELISTED NPL: National Priority List Deletions. The National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP) establishes the criteria that the EPA uses to delete sites from the NPL. In accordance with 40 CFR 300.425.(e), sites may be deleted from the NPL where no further response is appropriate.

A review of the Delisted NPL list, as provided by EDR, dated July 5, 2006, has revealed that there are no delisted NPL sites within the search area.

NPL RECOVERY: Federal Superfund Liens. Under the authority granted the USEPA by CERCLA of 1980, the USEPA has the authority to file liens against real property in order to recover remedial action expenditures or when the property owner received notification of potential liability. USEPA compiles a listing of filed notices of Superfund Liens.

A review of the NPL Recovery list, as provided by EDR, dated October 15, 1991, has revealed that there are no NPL sites within the search area.

CERCLIS: The Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Information System contains data on potentially hazardous waste sites that have been reported to the USEPA by states, municipalities, private companies and private persons, pursuant to Section 103 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA). CERCLIS contains sites which are either proposed to or on the National Priorities List (NPL) and sites which are in the screening and assessment phase for possible inclusion on the NPL.

A review of the CERCLIS list, as provided by EDR, dated June 19, 2006 has revealed that there are no CERCLIS sites within the search area.

CERCLIS-NFRAP: CERCLIS sites designated "No Further Remedial Action Planned" (NFRAP). Archived sites are sites that have been removed and archived from the inventory of CERCLIS sites. Archived status indicates that, to the best of EPA's knowledge, assessment at a site has been completed and that EPA has determined no further steps will be taken to list this site on the National Priorities List (NPL), unless information indicates this decision was not appropriate or other considerations require a recommendation for listing at a later time. This decision does not necessarily mean that there is no hazard associated with a given site; it only means that, based upon available information, the location is not judged to be a potential NPL site.

A review of the CERCLIS-NFRAP list, as provided by EDR, July 17, 2006, has revealed that there is no CERCLIS-NFRAP site within the search area.

CORRACTS: The Corrective Action Report identifies hazardous waste handlers with RCRA corrective action activity.

A review of the CORRACTS list, as provided by EDR, dated March 15, 2006, has revealed that there are no CORRACTS sites within the search area.

RCRA: The Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Information is EPA's comprehensive information system, providing access to data supporting the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) of 1976 and the Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments (HSWA) of 1984. RCRA Info replaces the data recording and reporting abilities of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Information System (RCRIS). The database includes selective information on sites which generate, transport, store, treat and/or dispose of hazardous waste as defined by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA). Conditionally exempt small quantity generators (CESQGs) generate less than 100 kg of hazardous waste, or less than 1 kg of acutely hazardous waste per month. Small quantity generators (SQGs) generate between 100 kg and 1,000

kg of hazardous waste pr month. Large quantity generators (LQGs) generate over 1,000 kilograms (kg) of hazardous waste, or over 1 kg of acutely hazardous waste per month. Transporters are individuals or entities that move hazardous waste from the generator off-site to a facility that can recycle, treat, store, or dispose of the waste. TSDFs treat, store, or dispose of the waste.

A review of the RCRA-LQG list, dated June 13, 2006, as provided by EDR, has revealed that there are no RCRA-LQG sites within the search area.

A review of the RCRA-SQG list, dated June 13, 2006, as provided by EDR, has revealed that there is one (1) RCRA-SQG site within the search area.

Site	Address
Elevating Boats Inc.	900 Saint Bernard Parkway

Its location is shown on the map included in Appendix B (EDR map 1771997.1s-12 Oct 06) and marked in accordance with the legend with a red triangle as Listed Site "1."

ERNS: The Emergency Response Notification System records and stores information on reported releases of oil and hazardous substances.

A review of the ERNS list, as provided by EDR, dated December 31, 2005, has revealed that there are no ERNS sites within the search area.

HMIRS: The Hazardous Materials Information Reporting System contains hazardous material spill incidents reported to DOT.

A review of the HMIRS list, as provided by EDR, dated July 3, 2006, has revealed that the site has no recorded data of hazardous material spill incidents.

US ENG CONTROLS: The Engineering Controls Sites List is a listing of sites with engineering controls in place. Engineering controls include various forms of caps, building foundations, liners, and treatment methods to create pathway elimination for regulated substances to enter environmental media or effect human health.

A review of the US ENG CONTROLS list, as provided by EDR, dated March 21, 2006, has revealed that there are no US ENG CONTROLS sites within the search area.

US INST CONTROL: The Sites with Institutional Controls is a listing of sites with institutional controls in place. Institutional controls include administrative measures, such as groundwater use restrictions, construction restrictions, property use restrictions, and post remediation care requirements intended to prevent exposure to contaminants

remaining on site. Deed restrictions are generally required as part of the institutional controls.

A review of the US INST CONTROLS list, as provided by EDR, dated March 21, 2006, has revealed that there are no US INST CONTROLS sites within the search area.

DOD: Department of Defense Sites. This data set consists of federally owned or administrative lands, administered by the Department of Defense, that have any area equal to or greater than 640 acres of the United States, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

A review of the DOD list, as provided by EDR, dated December 31, 2004, has revealed that there are no DOD sites within the search area.

FUDS: Formerly Used Defense Sites. The listing includes locations of Formerly Used Defense Sites properties where the US Army Corps of Engineers is actively working or will take necessary cleanup actions.

A review of the FUDS list, as provided by EDR, dated December 5, 2005, has revealed that there are no FUDS sites within the search area.

US BROWNFIELDS: A Listing of Brownfields Sites. Included in the listing are brownfields properties addresses by Cooperative Agreement Recipients and brownfields properties addressed by Targeted Brownfields Assessments. Targeted Brownfields Assessments – EPA’s Targeted Brownfields Assessments (TBA) program is designed to help states, tribes, and municipalities – especially those without EPA Brownfields Assessment Demonstration pilots – minimize the uncertainties of contamination often associated with brownfields. Under the TBA program, EPA provides funding and/or technical assistance for environmental assessments at brownfields sites throughout the country. Targeted Brownfields Assessments supplement and work with other efforts under EPA’s Brownfields Initiative to promote cleanup and redevelopment of brownfields. Cooperative Agreement Recipients-States, political subdivisions, territories, and Indian tribes become Brownfields Cleanup Revolving Loan Fund (BCRLF) cooperative agreement recipients when they enter into BCRLF cooperative agreements with the U.S. EPA. EPA selects BCRLF cooperative agreement recipients based on a proposal and application process. BCRLF cooperative agreement recipients must use EPA funds provided through BCRLF cooperative agreement for specified brownfields-related cleanup activities.

A review of the US BROWNFIELDS list, as provided by EDR, dated July 10, 2006, has revealed that there are no US BROWNFIELDS sites within the search area.

CONSENT: Superfund (CERCLA) Consent Decrees are major legal settlements that establish responsibility and standards for clean-up at NPL (Superfund) sites. Released

periodically by United States District Courts after settlement by parties to litigation matters.

A review of the CONSENT list, as provided by EDR, dated December 14, 2004, has revealed that there are no CONSENT sites within the search area.

ROD: Records of Decision documents mandate a permanent remedy at an NPL (Superfund) site containing technical and health information to aid in the clean-up.

A review of the ROD list, as provided by EDR, dated July 10, 2006, has revealed that there are no ROD sites within the search area.

UMTRA: Uranium Mill Tailings Sites. Uranium ore was mined by private companies for federal government use in national defense programs. When the mills shut down, large piles of the sand-like material (mill tailings) remain after uranium has been extracted from the ore. Levels of human exposure to radioactive materials from the piles are low; however, in some cases tailings were used as construction materials before the potential health hazards of the tailings were recognized.

A review of the UMTRA list, as provided by EDR, dated November 4, 2005, has revealed that there are no UMTRA sites within the search area.

ODI: Open Dump Inventory. An open dump is defined as a disposal facility that does not comply with one or more of the Part 257 or Part 258 Subtitle D Criteria.

A review of the ODI list, as provided by EDR, dated June 30, 1985, has revealed that there are no ODI sites within the search area.

PRP: Potentially Responsible Parties

A review of the PRP list, as provided by EDR, dated July 20, 2006, has revealed that there are no listed PRPs within the search area.

TRIS: The Toxic Chemical Release Inventory System identifies facilities which release toxic chemicals to the air, water, and land in reportable quantities under SARA Title III, Section 313.

A review of the TRIS list, as provided by EDR, dated December 31, 2004, has revealed that there were no recorded releases of toxic chemicals to the air, water, or land in reportable quantities.

TSCA: The Toxic Substance Control Act identifies manufacturers and importers of chemical substances included on the TSCA Chemical Substance Inventory list. It includes data on the production volume of these substances by plant site.

A review of the TSCA list, as provided by EDR, dated December 31, 2002, has revealed that there are no TSCA sites within the search area.

FTTS: FIFRA / TSCA Tracking System - FIFRA (Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, & Rodenticide Act) / TSCA (Toxic Substances Control Act) FTTS tracks administrative cases and pesticide enforcement actions and compliance activities related to FIFRA, TSCA and EPCRA (Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act). To maintain currency, EDR contacts the Agency on a quarterly basis.

A review of the FTTS list, dated July 14, 2006, as provided by EDR, has revealed that there are no FTTS sites within the search area.

FTTS INSP: FIFRA / TSCA Tracking System – FIFRA (Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, & Rodenticide Act)/TSCA (Toxic Substances Control Act)

A review of the FTTS INSP list, dated July 14, 2006, as provided by EDR, has revealed that there are no FTTS INSP sites within the search area.

SSTS: Section 7 Tracking Systems. Section 7 of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act, as amended (92 Stat. 829) requires all registered pesticide-producing establishments to submit a report to the Environmental Protection Agency by March 1st each year. Each establishment must report the types and amounts of pesticides, active ingredients and devices being produced, and those having been produced and sold or distributed in the past year.

A review of the SSTS, dated December 31, 2004, as provided by EDR, has revealed that there are no SSTS sites within the search area.

ICIS: Integrated Compliance Information System supports the information needs of the national enforcement and compliance program as well as the unique needs of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) program.

A review of the ICIS list, as provided by EDR, dated February 13, 2006, has revealed that there are no ICIS sites within the search area.

PADS: The PCB Activity Database System identifies generators, transporters, commercial stores, and/or brokers and disposers of PCB's who are required to notify the EPA of such activities.

A review of the PADS list, as provided by EDR, dated July 7, 2006, has revealed that there are no PADS sites within the search area.

MLTS: The Material Licensing Tracking System is maintained by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and contains a list of approximately 8,100 sites which possess or

use radioactive materials and which are subject to NRC licensing requirements. To maintain currency, EDR contacts the Agency on a quarterly basis.

A review of the MLTS list, as provided by EDR, dated July 10, 2006, has revealed that the site has no recorded data of radioactive materials.

MINES: The Mines Master Index File contains all mine identification numbers issued for mines active or opened since 1971. The data also includes violation information.

A review of the MINES list, as provided by EDR, dated May 16, 2006, has revealed that there are no mine sites within the search area.

FINDS: The Facility Index System / Facility Registry System contain both facility information and "pointers" to other sources that contain more detail. EDR includes the following FINDS databases in this report:

- PCS (Permit Compliance System),
- AIRS (Aerometric Information Retrieval System),
- DOCKET (Enforcement Docket used to manage and track information on civil judicial enforcement cases for environmental statutes),
- FURS (Federal Underground Injection Control),
- C-DOCKET (Criminal Docket System used to track criminal enforcement actions for environmental statutes),
- FFIS (Federal Facilities Information System),
- STATE (State Environmental Laws and Statutes), and
- PADS (PCB Activity Data System).

A review of the FINDS list, dated July 21, 2006, as provided by EDR, has revealed that there is one (1) FINDS site within the search area.

Site	Address	Map ID #
Elevating Boats Inc.	900 Saint Bernard Parkway	1

RAATS: RCRA Administration Action Tracking System. RAATS contains records based on enforcement actions issued under RCRA pertaining to major violators and includes administrative and civil actions brought by the EPA. For administration actions after September 30, 1995, data entry in the RAATS database was discontinued. EPA will retain a copy of the database for historical records. It was necessary to terminate RAATS because a decrease in agency resources made it impossible to continue to update the information contained in the database.

A review of the RAATS list, as provided by EDR, dated April 17, 1995, has revealed that the site has no recorded data of enforcement actions.

BRS: The Biennial Reporting System is a national system administered by the EPA that collects data on the generation and management of hazardous waste. BRS captures detailed data from two groups: Large Quantity Generators (LQG) and Treatment, Storage, and Disposal facilities (TSDFs).

A review of the BRS list as provided by EDR, dated December 31, 2003, has revealed that there are no BRS sites within the search area.

SHWS: Potential and Confirmed Sites List. Confirmed status denotes that assessments have been performed and a determination made that (1) hazardous waste(s) or substance(s) are present at the site and (2) these sites are under the jurisdiction of the LDEQ/RSD. Potential status is an indicator that sites are either waiting to be assessed or the assessment is in progress.

A review of the SHWS list, dated August 7, 2006, as provided by EDR, has revealed that there are no SHWS sites.

SWF/LF: Landfill List. Solid Waste Facilities/Landfill Sites. SWF/LF type records typically contain an inventory of solid waste disposal facilities or landfills in a particular state. Depending on the state, these may be active or inactive facilities or open dumps that failed to meet RCRA Subtitle D Section 4004 criteria for solid waste landfills or disposal sites.

A review of the SWF/LF list, dated July 11, 2006, as provided by EDR, has revealed that there are no SWF/LF sites within the search area.

DEBRIS: LDEQ Approved Debris Sites. A listing of LDEQ Approved Debris Sites where hurricane debris is dumped.

A review of the DEBRIS sites, dated April 18, 2006, as provided by EDR, has revealed that there are no DEBRIS sites within the search area.

SWRCY: Recycling Directory. A list of recycling facilities.

A review of the SWRCY list, as provided by EDR, dated July 11, 2006, has revealed that there are no SWRCY sites within the search area.

LUST: Leaking Underground Storage Tanks Incident Reports. LUST records contain an inventory of reported leaking underground storage tank incidents. Not all states maintain these records, and the information stored varies by state.

A review of the LUST list, as provided by EDR, dated July 17, 2006, has revealed that there are no LUST site within the search area.

HIST LUST: Underground Storage Tank Case History Incidents. This listing includes detailed information for Leaking Underground Storage Tanks reported through November 1999. It is no longer updated. Current LUST incidents, without detail, can be found in the Leaking Underground Storage Tank Database.

A review of the HIST LUST list, dated November 1, 1999, as provided by EDR, has revealed that there are no HIST LUST sites within the search area.

UST: Louisiana Underground Storage Tank Database: Registered Underground Storage Tanks are regulated under Subtitle I of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) and must be registered with the state department responsible for administering the UST program. Available information varies by state program.

A review of the UST list, dated July 5, 2006, as provided by EDR, has revealed that there is one (1) UST site within the search area.

Site	Address	Map ID #
Elevating Boats Inc.	900 Saint Bernard Parkway	1

LIENS: Environmental Liens.

A review of the LIENS list, as provided by EDR, dated September 6, 2006, has revealed that there are no LIENS sites within the search area.

SPILLS: Emergency Response Section Incidents. Spills and/or releases, to land, reported to the Emergency Response Section.

A review of the SPILLS list, as provided by EDR, dated June 27, 2006 has revealed that there is no SPILLS site within the search area.

AUL: Listing of Institutional and/or engineering controls. A notice of contamination (nature and level of contaminants) and restriction of property to non-residential use are placed in the conveyance records for the property.

A review of the AUL, dated August 10, 2006, as provided by EDR, has revealed that there are no AUL sites within the search area.

VCP: Voluntary Remediation Program Sites. Sites that have entered the Department of Environmental Quality's Voluntary Remediation Program.

A review of the VCP list, as provided by EDR, dated August 15, 2006, has revealed that there are no VCP sites within the search area.

DRYCLEANERS: Drycleaner Facility Listing.

A review of the DRYCLEANERS list, dated May 15, 2006, as provided by EDR, has revealed that there is no DRYCLEANERS site within the search area.

Only one site has been identified. Its location is noted on the topographic map included in *Appendix B* that follows the Corridor Study. Information about the site is provided below.

- 1) Elevating Boats Inc., 900 Saint Bernard Parkway, Braithwaite, LA 70040
RCRA-SQG; No violations reported.
FINDS; Aerometric Information Retrieval System Facility Subsystem, Permit Compliance System, RCRA-info, Toxic Release Inventory System
UST; 1-10,000 gal. closed gasoline, 1-1,000 gal. closed diesel, 1-5,000 gal. closed gasoline

5.2 Additional Environmental Record Sources

The LDEQ web site data base was searched for sites of potential environmental concern located near to the subject levee property. Elevating Boats, Inc. was noted as having an agency interest number but it was not shown on LDEQs website as a site with any potential environmental concerns.

5.3 Physical Setting Source(s)

Geology

The levees of the subject area are mapped as Aquents (AD) which describe dredged soils forming in hydraulically deposited fill material excavated from nearby marshes during construction and maintenance of waterways. This map unit may not accurately describe the soils that compose the levees since levee construction materials may have been trucked in from other locations.

The levee cuts across several existing soil types as it runs from the Mississippi River on the west to Bayou Terre Boeuf and the coastal marshes near the New Canal in the east.

The soils to the north of the levee vary along the path of the levee as Sharkey clay (Sk), Sharkey silty clay loam (Sh) and Clovelly muck (CE). The Sharkey soils consist of poorly drained, mineral soils that are very slowly permeable and firm. These soils form in the clayey alluvium in intermediate and low positions in the back swamps of the Mississippi River flood plain.

The surrounding soil unit to the south of the levee is predominately a Clovelly muck (CE). A Clovelly muck is an organic soil that is very poorly drained, very fluid and slightly saline. This is a soil that is flooded most of the time by brackish water and is wet throughout the year. The soil has low strength and poor trafficability.

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service. 1989. Soil Survey of St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana. 96 pgs. plus map sheets.

Flood Zone

Per the EDR report from the Federal Emergency Management agency (FEMA), the target property is located within the boundary of the 100-year flood plain, and is listed in the national wetland inventory.

Reference Appendix B, EDR Corridor Study.

5.4 Historical Use Information on the Property and Adjoining Properties

5.4.1 Sanborn Maps

A search for insurance maps of the subject area was conducted by EDR. (*Appendix C, Sanborn Map Report*). Sanborn fire insurance maps often contain information relating to individual structures, location of certain petroleum and chemical storage tanks, and the storage of other potentially toxic substances. No Sanborn Maps were found for the subject levee.

Reference Appendix C, Sanborn Map Report

5.4.2 Historic Aerial Photos

URS retrieved 1946 and 1960 aerial photos of the subject levee from the New Orleans Public Library. Copies are included in *Appendix D*. Due to the length of the subject levee, numerous aeriels were copied in order to cover the subject area. Each aerial photo has a date stamped on its upper left and a unique identification number on its upper right. The entire length of subject levee can be viewed if the individual aeriels are placed in the order listed on the first page of *Appendix D*. Please note, many aeriels overlap a great deal.

1946 Aerial- Levees are not visible in these aeriels. By superimposing the location of the existing levees on these aeriels, no areas of environmental interest appear. The area that the levee currently is located is wetlands. The shipyard located at 900 St. Bernard Parkway is visible on the aeriels; however, most of the surrounding land is undeveloped wetlands.

1960 Aerial- Levees are not visible in these aeriels. By superimposing the location of the existing levees on these aeriels, it appears as though wetlands surround most of the area that the levee is currently located. The shipyard located at 900 St. Bernard Parkway is visible on the

aerials; however, most of the surrounding land is undeveloped wetlands. A portion of a natural gas processing facility can be seen on the eastern edge of the aerial. This facility is still currently operating; however, it is located well outside of the 1000 foot radius around the levee.

5.4.3 Historic Topographic Maps

URS reviewed available historic topographic maps of the site and surrounding areas provided by EDR to identify historical land uses that may have involved hazardous substances and petroleum products. URS reviewed historic topographic maps for the year 1951. The following are descriptions and interpretations from the historic topographic map review.

Date	Description
1951 (4 maps)	Levee not shown on map. Area where levee is currently was not developed.
1966 (1 map)	Western end of levee is shown north of Arpent Canal. No development is the south. Development near levee area in Caernarvon.
1967 (3 maps)	Levee is shown. Development does not extend south past the railroad tracks. Minor development near levee in Verret.
1972 (4 maps)	Same development as in 1966 and 1967. No development south of RR tracks. Levee is shown as under construction. Control structure under construction south of Toca.
1979 (4 maps)	Same as 1972 along levee. More developments along Bayou Road.
1983 (4 maps)	Same as 1979 along levee. More developments along Bayou Road.
1994 (4 maps)	Levee no longer under construction. More developments between Bayou Road and railroad tracks.
1999 (1 map)	Same as 1994 in levee area.

Reference Appendix E, Historical Topographic Maps

6.0 SITE RECONNAISSANCE

6.0 SITE RECONNAISSANCE

On November 1, 2006, Edward Doepp and Eric Stack of URS conducted a reconnaissance of the site. The stretch of levee was accessed by vehicle and assessed by foot with photographs taken (*Appendix F*). Particular attention was given to the site listed in the EDR report. Items of interest are described below.

6.1 Hazardous Substances in Connection with Identified Uses (including storage, handling, disposal)

URS observed no hazardous substances and identified no storage, handling or disposal of hazardous substances on the day of the site reconnaissance.

6.2 Hazardous Substances Containers and Unidentified Substance Containers (including storage, handling, disposal)

URS observed several drums and paint containers at Elevating Boats Inc., 900 Saint Bernard Parkway, Braithwaite, LA 70040. One of these areas, located at 29°51'39" N, 89°54'23" W, contained drums and had visible staining on the ground around the area (see *Appendix F*, photo #1).

An area adjacent to the western project boundary of the levee near Elevating Boats Inc. at coordinates 29°51'33" N, 89°54'19" W contains several abandoned buses, construction debris, and an abandoned warehouse. Also of significant importance is the presence of a tanker truck that appears to be abandoned in this clearing (see *Appendix F*, photo #5). The contents of the truck are unknown.

URS also observed several unlabeled drums in an area along the eastern side of the project area near the intersection of the levee and Bayou Road (see *Appendix F*, photo #15). There were several drums along with some abandoned tractors, cars, and miscellaneous debris located in this area at coordinates 29°51'29" N, 89°46'39" W. There were no visible signs of leaking. The contents and age of the drums are unknown.

6.3 Storage Tanks (including contents and assessment of leakage or potential for leakage)

URS noted two ASTs at the shipyard Elevating Boats Inc. (*Appendix F*, photos #2 and #3). These tanks did not have secondary containment. They did not have any visible signs of leaking. The coordinates of these tank are 29°51'34" N, 89°54'23" W and 29°51'49" N, 89°54'28" W.

There are also 2 ASTs located at the pump station located towards the southeast portion of the project area (*Appendix F*, photos #11, #12, and #13). These tanks are enclosed in secondary

containment and are maintained by the Lake Bourgne Levee District. The coordinates of these tanks are 29°51'16" N, 89°47'44" W.

6.4 Indication of PCBs (including how contained and assessment of leakage or potential for leakage)

During the site visit, the subject levee showed no evident signs of PCBs. There is one electrical transmission line that passes above the levee right-of-way at coordinates 29°51'15" N, 89°52'08" W. Photograph # 7 in Appendix F shows this transmission line. There is no visible indication of PCBs in this area.

6.5 Indications of Solid Waste Disposal

URS observed no indication of solid waste disposal on the day of the site reconnaissance.

URS did observe two separate areas that contained several abandoned vehicles along with construction debris (Appendix F, photos #5 and #14). These sites are mentioned in Section 6.2. One of these areas is located on the western side of the project area near Elevating Boats Inc shipyard at coordinates 29°51'33" N, 89°54'19" W. The other area is located along the eastern end of the project area near the intersection of the levee and Bayou Road at coordinates 29°51'29" N, 89°46'39" W.

6.6 Physical Setting Analysis, if Migrating Hazardous Substances are an Issue

URS observed no indications of migrating hazardous substances from any surrounding areas on the day of the site reconnaissance.

6.7 Other Conditions of Concern

Per interview with the Lake Bourgne Levee District, there are six to eight natural gas pipelines that intersect the levee right-of-way. Three of these pipelines intersect the levee above ground. Photographs of these pipelines can be seen in Appendix F. The remainder of these pipelines intersects the levee underground. There are no visible signs of leaking or any other potential environmental issues (Appendix F, photos #6 thru #10).

A water elevation control structure was located at 29°51'15" N, 89°50'48" W (Appendix F, photo # 14). There are two culverts, one on each side of the levee, with two valves in the middle. The valves are opened and closed manually. There were no environmental concerns observed associated with this structure.

7.0 INTERVIEWS

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URS interviewed Mr. Bob Turner, Lake Bourgne Levee District, on November 1, 2006 at his St. Bernard Avenue office. The purpose of the interview was to determine if he knew of any possible environmental concerns on or near the levee that could affect future excavation and construction in the area. He does not know of any spills or leaks in the area that would be of an environmental concern. He stated that everything along the levee alignment is wetlands and undeveloped. There are gates providing limited access from the pump station on the eastern end of the levee to the Elevating Boats Inc. shipyard on the western end which prevent most miscellaneous dumping along the levee system. He stated that there is a large amount of hunting that is done in the area; however, none in the levee right-of-way. He noted that there are approximately 6 to 8 natural gas lines that cross the right-of-way, either on top of or through the actual levee. He did state that there could be more that are not marked that he is unaware of. There has been an explosion of one of the natural gas lines since he has been working for the Levee District. The line was repaired and is back in service.

8.0 FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

8.0 FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

Based upon URS site observations, records review, research and interviews, URS has summarized findings and conclusions in the paragraphs below related to recognized environmental conditions (REC) in the area of the existing levee segment from Verret to Caernarvon, designated by the Corps of Engineers as B/L Station 1118+60 to B/L Sta. 1560+25. The area is almost completely surrounded by wetlands with minimal development at both ends of the project area. Based on historical aerial photographs, this levee segment was constructed post 1960.

Historic aerials and topographic maps were studied to confirm the history of the subject levee segment area and to determine uses of the subject property. (Sanborn maps were not available for this area.) In particular, maps were examined for notations of USTs and ASTs. Databases were searched (with the aid of EDR) to determine reported incidents of environmental concern near the levee area.

The database search revealed one reported site. This site is a shipyard named Elevating Boats Inc. located at 900 Saint Bernard Parkway, Braithwaite, LA 70040. Its location is shown on Figure 1 included in this *Section 8.0*. This site is listed on the RCRA, FINDS, and UST databases and is within 1000 feet of the existing concrete floodwall. During the site reconnaissance, several areas at the shipyard were noted that had drums and paint containers with visible staining on the ground around them. These drums and containers were not in areas with secondary containment. Two ASTs without secondary containment were also seen. The UST that the EDR database listed as being present was not located. This site is considered a REC.

Four (4) other areas within 1000 feet of the levee centerline were noted during the site reconnaissance. Their locations are also shown on Figure 1 included in this *Section 8.0*. While it is URS' opinion that they do not meet the definition of a REC, they are noteworthy.

Vehicle Dump Site- a cleared area on the protected side of the levee, south of the Elevating Boats Inc. shipyard. This area contained several vehicles that appeared to be abandoned. An abandoned tanker truck is also in this area. It could not be determined if anything was in the truck or if anything had leaked from the truck.

Natural Gas Pipelines- There are numerous natural gas pipelines that intersect the levee right-of-way. These pipelines currently have no visible environmental concerns; however, if any of these were to experience a problem, numerous issues could occur from a safety and environmental standpoint. It was noted during an interview with a Lake Bourgne Levee District employee that one of these pipelines had exploded during his employment with the levee board and caused serious damage to the surrounding area.

Pump Station- a pump station located towards the southeastern end of the project area. There are 2 ASTs at this station to fuel the pumps when they are operating. These tanks

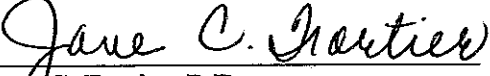
are in secondary containment and appear to be well maintained. They do not appear to be an environmental concern but their presence is noted.

Debris Dump Site- a dump site is located at the eastern end of the project area, near the intersection of the levee and Bayou Road. This area contains several abandoned and broken cars, tractors, and debris. There are also several drums of unknown contents in the area.

Note: The conclusions presented in this report are preliminary in nature and are not to be used as a sole basis for final action(s), or as the sole basis for major capital decisions. Background data and information furnished to URS were used in the preparation of this report. URS has not independently verified or otherwise examined it nor is responsible for the accuracy of this information. The findings, although valid as of the present date, are subject to future changes in conditions of the site, adjacent properties, applicable regulations, requirements, or other findings which may invalidate them wholly or in part.

9.0 SIGNATURES OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROFESSIONALS

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Jane C. Fortier, P.E.

**10.0 QUALIFICATIONS OF ENVIRONMENTAL
PROFESSIONALS PARTICIPATION IN
PHASE I ENVIRONMENTAL SITE ASSESSMENT**

**10.0 QUALIFICATIONS OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROFESSIONALS
PARTICIPATING IN PHASE I ENVIRONMENTAL SITE ASSESSMENT**

Refer to *Appendix H, Resumes*, for a resume of site assessment personnel.